State cash balance, out of which investments are made when there is any surplus.

Recruitment of Tahsildars, Magistrates and Assistant Excise Commissioners.

102. MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Will the Government be pleased to state the principles they follow in the matter of recruiting Tahsildars, Magistrates and Assistant Excise Commissioners of the State and how seniority is determined amongst acting Tahsildars and Magistrates?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): These officers are ordinarily recruited from men in the service with due regard to their pay, length of service, qualifications and merit.

The question of seniority does not arise until confirmation.

Minimum Out-turn prescribed for Munsiffs.

103. MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Will the Government be pleased to order that the minimum number of contested suits to be disposed of by the District Munsiffs *per mensem* be reduced from 40 to at least 30, in the interests of the litigant public?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The answer is in the negative.

Accommodation in Railway Carriages.

104. MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): With reference to the answer given to question No. 108 asked at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 9th Vrischikam, 1098, will the Government be pleased to state:

(i) whether they have any information about the arrival of additional rolling stock, and, if so, how many among such are now being used on the Travancore line;

(ii) whether they are aware that the inconvenience caused by the lack of accommodation in railway carriages has not yet been removed, especially in the day-trains; and

(iii) whether they have invited the attention of the railway authorities to the inconvenience and danger to which the third class passengers are put on account of the shutters not being provided with proper bolts, springs, etc., and of the dirty condition of the carriages?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(i) and (ii) The purchase and supply of rolling stock is still under correspondence with the Agent, South Indian Railway.

(iii) Yes.

Travelling without Tickets on the Quilon-Trivandrum Railway.

105. MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): (*a*) Are the Government aware that many passengers

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[Mr. M. N. Pillai.]

are travelling in the trains, especially on the section between Quilon and Trivandrum, without tickets?

(*b*) If so, will the Government be pleased to conduct an investigation into the matter?

(*c*) Are the Government aware that no proper scrutiny or check is exercised by the railway authorities in this direction?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) In the light of the answer to part (*a*), the necessity for the investigation does not arise.

(*c*) Government have no information. They will forward the interpellation and the answer to the South Indian Railway authorities.

Publication of Legislative Council Proceedings.

106. MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI (*Kottarakara cum Kunnattur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(i) the cause of the delay in publishing the Legislative Council Proceedings; and

(ii) whether the delay is in the Secretariat or in the Press?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (i) and (ii) The proceedings for the last session have already been issued. The delay was to a large extent due to the delay on the part of some members to return their speeches revised.

Local Purchase of Medicines.

107. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the amount which the Darbar Physician is authorised to spend at a time for local purchase of medicines?

(*b*) Has he exceeded this amount at any time, and, if so, on how many occasions?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The Darbar Physician is authorised to purchase medicines locally to the extent of Rs. 25 at a time.

(*b*) The answer is in the negative.

Swiss Milk for Hospitals.

108. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Will the Government be pleased to state the amount spent in 1097 and 1098 for purchasing Swiss milk and where this was purchased from?

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